## **Introduced by Senator Battin**

January 27, 2003

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 8—Relative to Child Abuse Prevention Month.

## LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCR 8, as introduced, Battin. Child Abuse Prevention Month.

This measure would acknowledge the month of April 2003, as Child Abuse Prevention Month, and encourage the people of the State of California to support child abuse prevention activities in their communities and schools.

Fiscal committee: no.

- WHEREAS, Child abuse and neglect continue to pose a serious threat to our nation's children; and
- WHEREAS, In 1996, more than 3,000,000 children were reported to child protective agencies in the United States as having suffered abuse and neglect; and
- WHEREAS, It is estimated that for every three dollars spent on child abuse and neglect, at least six dollars are saved that might be spent on child welfare services, special education services, medical care, foster care, counseling, and the housing of juvenile
- 10 offenders; and
- WHEREAS, Child abuse and neglect is a community problem and finding solutions depends on the involvement of people
- 13 throughout the community; and
- 14 WHEREAS, The first organized statewide Blue Ribbon
- 15 Campaign was originated in Norfolk, Virginia, by the

SCR 8 -2

grandmother of Bubba Dickinson, a child who was murdered by his mother's abusive boyfriend; and

WHEREAS, In recent years, the National Committee to Prevent Child Abuse, the California chapter and other local affiliates,

5 United States military bases, and other groups have organized Blue

Ribbon Campaigns to increase public awareness of child abuse and to promote ways to prevent child abuse; and

WHEREAS, The National Committee to Prevent Child Abuse, in all its forms, has proclaimed April as National Child Abuse Prevention Month; and

WHEREAS, Blue ribbons are displayed to increase awareness of child abuse and as a strategy for Child Abuse Prevention Month; and

WHEREAS, This year's campaign is entitled "\_\_\_\_\_"; and WHEREAS, The flexibility of this program offers numerous opportunities to be innovative and to create partnerships within business, professional, and community organizations; and

WHEREAS, The Senate and the Assembly encourage the community to work together for youth-serving prevention programs; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly thereof concurring, That the Legislature does hereby acknowledge the month of April 2003, as Child Abuse Prevention Month, and encourage the people of the State of California to support child abuse prevention activities in their communities and schools during that month and throughout the year; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.